

REMARKS

Claims 14-15, 37-39 and 44 were pending in the Application. Claims 37-39 and 44 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Hence, claims 14-15 are pending.

Applicants cancelled claims 37-39 and 44 so as to prosecute all method claims in one patent application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that cancelled claims 37-39 and 44 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Claims 37-39 and 44 were cancelled solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the remaining method claims (claims 14-15). Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these (claims 37-39 and 44) and other claims in one or more continuation patent applications.

Claims 14-15 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and file a Notice of Appeal concurrently herewith. Applicants will specifically provide the reasons for traversal in Applicants' Appeal Brief.

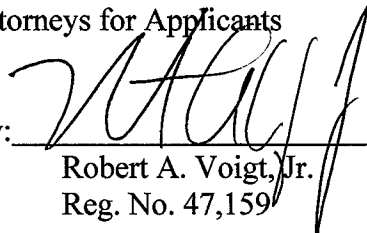
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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